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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV, CU/ARTS, CU/ACS; USIA FOR IEU;
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF LEONARD MARKS, CHAIRMAN, US ADVISORY
COMMISSION ON INT'L EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE

REF: (A) MOSCOW 12388 (B) LENINGRAD 1345 (C) MOSCOW 12454
(D) USINFO'S AUG 27, 28, 29, SEPT 2

SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN LEONARD MARKS, AND WILLIAM FRENCH SMITH,
COMMISSION MEMBER AND HEAD, UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF REGENTS,
VISITED MOSCOW AND KIEV AUGUST 26-SEPT 2, AFTER LENINGRAD STOP
(REF B). WILLIAM WELD, COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MRS.
MARKS AND MRS. SMITH ACCOMPANIED. MARKS AND SMITH WERE GUESTS
OF MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND OFFICIAL US DELEGATES AT OPENING
OF "100 PAINTINGS OF THE METROPOLITAN" EXHIBIT AT PUSHKIN
MUSEUM. IN ADDITION, PARTY HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH HIGH-
LEVEL CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OFFICIALS AND TOOK ADVANTAGE OF
TIMING, FOLLOWING CSCE FINAL ACT SIGNING, TO EXPLORE PRESENT
AND FUTURE RELATIONS. USEFUL INSIGHTS INTO CURRENT SOVIET THINKING
WERE DEVELOPED AND SEVERAL IDEAS WERE ADVANCED FOR EXPANDED
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CONTACTS WHICH EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTRY OF CULTURE: FOLLOWING POST-ARRIVAL LUNCHEON BRIEFING HOSTED BY DCM, MARKS PARTY CALLED ON MINISTER P.N. DEMICHEV FOR FRANK, HOUR-LONG DISCUSSION. CALL ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED WITH DEPUTY MINISTRY POPOV, BUT EARLIER IN AFTERNOON WE WERE INFORMED MINISTER WOULD NOT RECEIVE.

(A) ATMOSPHERE: AFTER FRIENDLY BANTER AND EXCHANGE OF COMPLIMENTS ON US AND SOVIET EXHIBITS, DURING WHICH DEMICHEV SAID THAT SUSLOV TEMPORARILY TAKING ON HIS FORMER PARTY DUTIES, MARKS RAISED QUESTION OF FUTURE ERA OF CULTURAL RELATIONS. DEMICHEV OBSERVED THAT BREZHNEV AND FORD HAD RECENTLY SIGNED THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT AND THAT IN THIS POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE THE NEXT THREE YEARS WOULD BE A TIME FOR MORE PLANS FOR CULTURE CONTACTS. WELCOMING ALL PROPOSALS, HE SAID THAT SINCE 1958 WHEN FORMAL RELATIONS ESTABLISHED SOVIETS HAD SENT MORE THAN 60 COMPANIES TO US. THESE WERE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE; "WE SENT OUR BEST," HE SAID. QUOTING AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BUTZ THAT IT'S BETTER TO EXCHANGE GRAIN THAN BULLETS, DEMICHEV SAID SAME IS TRUE FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS. "CULTURAL RELATIONS HAVE HELPED THE POLITICAL AREA AS WELL." (COMMENT: THROUGHOUT CALL DEMICHEV SHOWED HIS ATTENTION WAS ON EXPANDING IMPACT OF SOVIET PROGRAMS ABROAD RATHER THAN REVERSE.)

(B) POST-CSCE: DEMICHEV AGREED SITUATION AFTER HELSINKI "MOST FAVORABLE." ASKED ABOUT TYPES OF EXPANDED CONTACTS, HE MENTIONED "NOT ONLY PERFORMING GROUPS BUT ALSO CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA ON THE ARTS." MARKS ASKED HOW WE SHOULD IMPLEMENT CSCE AND DEMICHEV REPLIED SOVIETS ARE PLEASED WITH THE RESULT OF EXCHANGES THIS YEAR. THERE WERE NO EXCESSES LIKE SOME TIMES IN PAST. (NOTE: DEMICHEV CLEARLY REFERRING TO DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST SOVIET PERFORMERS AND EXHIBITS.) HE NOTED SOVIETS WERE HOSPITABLE TO FOREIGN GROUPS, TRYING TO DO BEST TO PROTECT THEM FROM FRIGHT OR DISCOMFORT. DEMICHEV WENT ON TO HOPE FOR MORE OBJECTIVE AND FAIR CRITICISM OF SOVIET PERFORMERS. SOVIET STANDARDS ON WHAT IS GOOD ARE STRICT, HE NOTED, BUT THERE IS NO MALICE. DEMICHEV POINTED OUT THAT CULTURAL RELATIONS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED SLOWLY AND PEACEFULLY, BUT SHOULD ADVANCE. SOME EXAMPLES HE CITED WERE SYMPOSIA, LECTURES, PLAYS IN CO-PRODUCTION, LIKE APOLLO-SOYUZ, OR BALLETS. DEMICHEV ASSURED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MARKS THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE SAW NO OBSTACLES TO SUCH EXCHANGES. WHEN ASKED BY MARKS WHAT US CAN DO TO SHOW INTEREST IN CSCE RESULTS, DEMICHEV REPLIED "ONLY YOUR GOOD WILL IS NEEDED." IN RESPONSE TO LATER MARKS QUESTION ON CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE, DEMICHEV SAID THERE WERE MANY WAYS TO FOLLOW UP AND THAT THERE WOULD BE VARIOUS CONFERENCES IN MOSCOW. "WE SHOULD THINK OF OUR OWN CONFERENCES ON THE ARTS TO DISTRIBUTE OUR ACHIEVEMENTS," HE SAID. TOPICS

MENTIONED INCLUDED URBAN PROBLEMS, ECOLOGY, ETHICAL AND MORAL ASPECTS, AND PROBLEMS OF DESIGN. THESE ARE NOBLE SUBJECTS, DEMICHEV SAID, AND OUR COOPERATION WOULD BE HELPFUL. AT THE MOMENT, DEMICHEV SAID, THE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE AMERICAN HOME EXHIBIT (USIA) WAS VERY POPULAR. "PEOPLE CAN COMPARE WHAT YOU HAVE." BUT, HE SAID, WE HAVE HAD THESE FOR MANY YEARS AND WE SHOULD GO FURTHER. MARKS REMARKED THAT BASKET I AND II WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT BELGRADE AND ASKED HOW TO MOVE AHEAD ON BASKET III. DEMICHEV REPLIED "WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING MUTUAL; GENERAL-SECRETARY BREZHNEV'S EXPECTED VISIT TO US WOULD GIVE NEW IMPULSE TO BASKET III." PRESSED BY MARKS FOR CONCRETE STATEMENT ON THIS, DEMICHEV DREW BACK AND SAID HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR BREZHNEV. HE SHIFTED TOPIC TO RECENT LETTER FROM SENATOR HUMPHREY OUTLINING ART EXCHANGE PROPOSAL OF MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM, AN INITIATIVE MINCULT APPRECIATED. (EMBASSY HAS WRITTEN CONSORTIUM AND SENATOR'S OFFICE.) WHEN WE MAKE GOVERNMENT PLANS, DEMICHEV SAID, WE SHOULD CONSIDER FURTHER STEPS FOR BENEFIT OF BOTH PEOPLES.

(C) US-SOVIET INFORMATION FLOW: DEMICHEV POINTED OUT THAT MANY CULTURAL PROGRAMS WERE CONNECTED WITH OUTSIDE PROBLEMS AND THE PERSPECTIVES OF OUR LIVES. "DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL LIFE IS NOT AT RANDOM BUT FOLLOWS SPECIAL RULES." WE HAVE DIFFERENT UNDERSTANDINGS AND DIFFERENT APPROACHES, HE SAID. HE THOUGHT WE WILL FIND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, THOUGH THIS IS NOT EASY. WE SHOULD ARGUE, PROVE OUR POINTS, AND EXCHANGE IDEAS. DEMICHEV DURING CONVERSATION MADE POINT THAT USSR DOING MORE THAN US, E.G.M FACT THAT 37 AMERICAN PLAYS HAVE BEEN PERFORMED IN OVER 100 SOVIET THEATERS SHOWS THERE IS NO PREJUDICE AGAINST AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHTS. SOVIETS WOULD APPRECIATE SIMILAR SITUATION IN US. SOVIETS TRANSLATE MORE US LITERATURE THAN AMERICANS TRANSLATE SOVIET. ASKED HOW RELATIONS COULD BE IMPRVED, DEMICHEV POINTED TO RECENT MOSCOW FILM FESTIVAL WHERE HE WAS SURPRISED AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FILM MAKERS REFUSED TO TAKE PART. MARKS SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH AMERICAN FILM LEADERS ON RETURN TO DISCUSS. HE SAID MINISTER AWARE THAT US GOVERNMENT CAN'T TELL FILM INDUSTRY WHAT TO DO. MARKS WENT ON TO ASK IF THERE WAS ANY RESTRICTION, BASED ON POLITICAL OR OTHER CONSIDERATION, ON US-USSR EXCHANGES. DEMICHEV SAID THERE WAS ONLY ONE: SOVIETS COULD ACCEPT ONLY PROGRAMS THAT STAND FOR HUMANISM -- THEY BAN PROPAGANDA FOR WAR, SEX, AND VIOLENCE. MARKS MENTIONED AN OLD SAYING THAT "PORNOGRAPHY IS WHAT I DON'T LIKE," AND SAID PERHAPS SAME IS TRUE OF PROPAGANDA. DEMICHEV REJOINED THAT "WE REGARD PROPAGANDA

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BETTER THAN YOU." LATER MARKS ASKED WHEN, AS AN EXAMPLE, WE MIGHT OPEN AN AMERICAN BOOKSTORE IN MOSCOW. DEMICHEV SAID SOVIETS BUY A LOT OF BOOKS FROM WEST. PRESSED, HE RAISED THE POINT IN CULTURAL RELATIONS OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. MARKS WENT ON TO CITE FOREIGN CULTURAL CENTERS IN OTHER SOCIALIST STATES. DEMICHEV REPLIED THAT SOVIETS MAKE THE SELECTION; " OUR WORD COUNTS." SOVIETS WILL NOT ACCEPT THE IMPROPER AND ARE AWARE OF EFFECT OF FREE MARKET SHOPS IN US, E.G., PORNOGRAPHY AND DRUGS. WE REGARD FREEDOM FROM DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW, HE SAID, AND TAKE AS OUR TASK THE SPIRITUAL HEALTH OF SOCIETY. "ANY INFECTION SHOULD BE EXCISED." "SOME SAY LET PEOPLE CHOOSE; SOME COUNTRIES AND PARTIES FEEL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS." MARKS SAID HE DID NOT AGREE BUT UNDERSTOOD. MARKS THEN ASKED ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF US EMBASSY. DEMICHEV SAID US COULD RAISE ANY TIME. "IF YOU PRODUCE BOOKS ACCEPTED HERE YOU CAN USE." DEPUTY MINISTER POPOV REMARKED THAT THIS LIBRARY IS HELPFUL TO SPECIALISTS AND SCIENTISTS. DEMICHEV MENTIONED SOVIET SCIENTISTS WHO SUBSCRIBE UNCONTROLLED TO US PERIODICALS. HESITATING, DEMICHEV REMARKED THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAD RECEIVED A NOTE THAT ONE SCIENTIST HAD SUBSCRIBED TO PLAYBOY. THEY DISCUSSED WHETHER TO FORBID, BUT DECIDED TO LET HIM. " "HE WAS SO OLD." IN CONCLUSION MARKS ALLUDED TO OUR DIFFERENCES IN PHILOSOPHY BUT EMPHASIZED THE COMMON GROUND IN OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL INTERESTS.

3. METROPOLITAN EXHIBIT OPENING: PUSHKIN MUSEUM DIRECTRESS, POPOV, AMBASSADOR, MARKS AND HOVING SPOKE AT CEREMONY FOLLOWING DAY. POPOV CITED IMPORTANCE OF SUCH CULTURAL EXCHANGES IN POST-CSCE ATMOSPHERE AND MENTIONED FUTURE MET-MINCULT EXCHANGES (USINFO AUG 299. MARKS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF SCSE GOALS. LOCAL TV, RADIO, AND PRESS GAVE CASUAL COVERAGE OF CEREMONIAL ASPECTS, LIGHT ON SUBSTANCE. VOA AND EMBASSY BULLETIN CARRIED MARKS POINTS IN DETAIL.

4. MINCULT LUNCHEON: IN TOAST AT FINAL DAY LUNCHEON HONORING OPENING, POPOV GREETED GUESTS ON BEHALF OF MINISTER DEMICHEV. HE SAID THIS WAS BIG DAY NOT ONLY IN CULTURAL RELATIONS BUT ALSO IN DIRECTION OF GENERAL RELATIONS. HE THANKED THOSE WHO PERFORMED EVERYDAY WORK OF BETTERING US-USSR CULTURAL RELATIONS. HE MADE SPECIAL POINT THAT THIS IS DELICATE AND FRAGILE WORK WHICH SHOULD GO FORWARD STEP-BY-STEP. (COMMENT: POPOV DISCUSSED JOURNALIST MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISA QUESTION PRIVATELY WITH AMBASSADOR AT SAME LUNCHEON. (REFTEL A). SOVIETS SEEMED CONCERNED THAT US SIDE MIGHT PUSH ON ALL ISSUES TOO HARD AND FAST, PARTICULARLY THROUGH PUBLIC PRESS.)

5. MFA CULTURAL DIVISION: IN CALL ON DIVISION CHIEF YU. 8. VOLSKIY, MARKS ASKED HIS VIEWS ON PRESENT STATE OF OUR RELATIONS AND FUTURE. VOLSKIY SAID THAT IN TIME SINCE FIRST SUMMIT MEETING THERE HAD BEGUN A PERIOD OF BROADER AND MORE VARIED CULTURAL RELATIONS. CSCE HAS OPENED A NEW OPPORTUNITY, HE SAID, AS GENERAL-SECRETARY BREZHNEV HAS STRESSED DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES AND PARTICULARLY THE US. THE FINAL ACT IS A BASE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RELATIONS AND USSR INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT IT. ALTHOUGH RELATIONS ARE AT HIGH LEVEL AT MOMENT, THERE IS ROOM FOR FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES. VOLSKIY CITED MET FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH MINCULT AND RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. BENSON AND CAO ON LECTURER AND LEADER EXCHANGES (SEPTTEL). OTHER FORMS MAY BE POSSIBLE, HE SAID, BUT WE MUST SOLVE EXISTING PROBLEMS, WHICH ARE (SEE SEPTTEL): (A) LAGGING DISTRIBUTION OF SOVIET LIFE IN US, AND (B) POOR SALES OF SOVIET FILMS IN US. VOLSKIY THEN SAID THAT WE MUST FIND A WAY TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO MAKE A NEW STEP IN EXCHANGES. (COMMENT: STATEMENT LEFT CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT SOVIETS CONSIDERING USE OF US-DESIRED NEW PROGRAMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS LEVERAGE FOR PROGRESS ON THESE ISSUES.) MARKS WENT ON TO DISCUSS MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR NEWSMEN (REFTEL A). COMMENTING ON SMITH'S INQUIRY ABOUT UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES, VOLSKIY SAID SOVIETS ARE READY TO RECEIVE PROPOSALS, BUT IT IS UP TO A US INSTITUTION INTERESTED IN FURTHER CONTACTS TO STATE ITS PROPOSAL IN CONCRETE TERMS. IN CONSIDERING REMARKS ABOUT CSCE FOLLOW-UP, VOLSKIY SAID ALL THREE BASKETS WERE EQUALLY IMPORTANT, BUT THAT WITHOUT STRENGTHENING OF POLITICAL RELATIONS

AND PROGRESS ON SECURITY MATTERS, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT THE OTHER ASPECTS. MARKS ASKED FINALLY IF IT WAS TRUE, AS MINISTER DEMICHEV HAD SAID, THAT US-SOVIET CULTURAL RELATIONS WERE AT BEST POINT IN RECENT YEARS, AND VOLSKIY REPLIED YES.

6. MINISTRY HIGHER EDUCATION: IN MEETING WITH L.B. BOZHANOV AND MHE OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH US EXCHANGES, MARKS PURSUED DUAL QUESTIONS OF HOW TO IMPROVE EXCHANGES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS. BOZHANOV TOOK ADVANTAGE OF QUESTIONS ABOUT IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION TO SAY THAT THEY ARE READY TO CONSIDER INCREASE IN IN NUMBER BUT DEALING WITH IREX IS COMPLICATED." HE COMPLAINED IREX INSISTS ON SENDING CANDIDATES EVEN IF "SITUATION HERE NOT SUITABLE." (COMMENT: UNSTATED BUT IMPLIED WAS IREX PRACTICE OF REFUSING ONE SOVIET FOR EACH AMERICAN REFUSED.) BOZHANOV SAID SOVIET NOMINATIONS DON'T MAKE CONFLICT WITH ISSUES OUTSIDE THE EXCHANGE TOPIC. "OUTSIDE ISSUES" APPEARED TO BE SUCH MATTERS AS HOUSING FOR THOSE WITH FAMILIES AND RECENTLY-ARRIVED HANDICAPPED STUDENT BARBER, FOR WHOM MHE AND MGU HAVE MADE MAJOR EFFORT. BOZHANOV SAID HE HAD IMPRESSION IREX TAKES JUST ABOUT ANYONE WHO APPLIES WHILE SOVIETS HAVE SEVERAL APPLICANTS FOR EACH POSITION. SAYING THAT IS ANY STUDENT NOT HELPED IN ALL MATTERS, HE GOES HOME WITH NEGATIVE ATTITUDE, BOZHANOV SUGGESTED EACH SIDE NOMINATE SEVERAL MORE THAN 50 AND LET THE OTHER SIDE PLACE 50 FROM THE LARGER NUMBER. BOZHANOV CONTINUED TO REPEAT THAT SOVIET STUDENTS RETURNED HOME VERY WELL SATISFIED AND, EXCEPT FOR A FEW "INCIDENTS," SUCH AS FALSE CHARGES OF ATTEMPTED SHOP-LIFTING OR CAR STEALING, RETURNED WITH VERY POSITIVE ATTITUDES TOWARD US. IN DISCUSSING UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES, BOZHANOV SAID INSTITUTIONS SHOULD WORK OUT DETAILS AND COME TO MHE FOR APPROVAL AND FUNDING, AS IN SUNY CASE. OVERALL, SOVIETS VERY PLEASED WITH PROGRESS OF EXCHANGES AND READY TO TAKE ON INCREASED ROLE POST-CSCE. RECENT UNIVERSITIES CONFERENCE (SEPTTEL) CITED AS EXAMPLE OF INCREASING INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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CONTACTS. BOZHANOV CONCLUDED THAT ATMOSPHERE HAD IMPROVED IN RECENT YEARS AND THAT THIS WAS GOOD TIME FURTHER TO CONSIDER JOINT PROGRAM. APPOINTMENT, INCIDENTALLY, HAD BEEN REQUESTED WITH DEPUTY MINISTER SOFINSKIY, WHO COULD NOT FIT PARTY INTO HIS SCHEDULE. SOFINSKIY UNEXPECTEDLY TURNED UP AT FINAL MINICULT LUNCHEON, APOLOGIZING FOR NOT SEEING MARKS EARLIER. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS SUGGESTS HE GOT WORK OF SIGNIFICANCE OF MARKS VISIT.

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7. MOSCOW UNIVERSITY: MARKS PRESENTED LETTER FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON (REFTEL C) TO VICE-RECTOR TROPIN, DUE TO ILLNESS OF RECTOR. AFTER DISCUSSING RECENT UNIVERSITIES CONFERENCE, TROPIN REVIEWED MGU'S RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES. MAIN POINTS MADE WERE THAT RECIPROCITY PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE AND THAT MGU MAY NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS WITH INSTITUTIONS ABROAD BUT MUST GO TO MHE FOR CLEARANCE. TROPIN CHARACTERIZED MHE-MGU RELATIONSHIP AS GOOD DESPITE SOME DISAGREEMENTS. AT SEPARATE TIMES MARKS GROUP ATTENDED CLOSING CEREMONY OF IREX/MGU SUMMER LANGUAGE TEACHER EXCHANGE, WHERE MARKS MADE SHORT SPEECH, AND TOURED US ACADEMIC-YEAR EXCHANGEES' ROOMS TO TALK WITH THEM.

8. GOSKONTSERT: IN FRANK TALK WITH DIRECTOR L.I. SUPAGIN, MARKS LEARNED OF TWO PROBLEMS FROM US SIDE: (A) LONGER ADVANCE PLANNING IS NEEDED. SOVIETS MUST PLAN 2, 3 OR 4 YEARS AHEAD FOR FACILITIES BUT THE US IN PAST HAS GIVEN TOO SHORT NOTICE OF PERFORMING GROUPS. SUPAGIN FELT IF KOKONIN COULD VISIT US IN FALL THIS WOULD BE A USEFUL STEP, BUT ASKED FOR MUCH GREATER ADVANCE NOTICE.

(B) STRONG US UNIONS, E.G. NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC, ARE A SECOND DIFFICULTY. SOVIETS CANNOT ALWAYS PROVIDE HOTEL SPACE DESIRED. SUPAGIN SAID US MUST UNDERSTAND SOVIET CONDITIONS. BECAUSE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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EXTENSIVE LOSSES, GOSK HOPES TO RECEIVE SMALLER GROUPS UNDER AGREEMENT; "REPRESENTATIVE OF US BUT NOT SO EXPENSIVE."
SUPAGIN SAID THAT DESPITE THESE RELATIVELY MINOR PROBLEMS US

GROUPS WERE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY SOVIET PUBLIC. HE SPOKE OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH EMBASSY, US IMPRESSARIOS, AND DEPT., PARTICULARLY GUY CORRIDEN WHOM HE KNEW IN GENEVA. HE ALSO FELT TIME WAS RIPE FOR BETTER DISSEMINATION OF EACH COUNTRY'S CULTURE IN THE OTHER AND, AS MARKS PUT IT AT THE END, FOR PUTTING INTO PRACTICE PRINCIPLES SUPAGIN AND CORRIDEN WROTE IN GENEVA WHILE PLAYING BASKETBALL FOR BASKET III.

9. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES: MR. SMITH LED THE GROUP IN AN ACADEMY CALL WHILE MARKS MET WITH THE PRESS. MAIN DISCUSSION TOPIC WAS EXPANSION OF THE LECTURE EXCHANGE (SEPTTEL).

10. KIEV: TWO IMPORTANT CALLS DURING A WEEKEND PLUS-MONDAY VISIT WERE WITH ACTING MINISTER OF CULTURE Y.D. VITOSHINSKIY AND KIEV UNIVERSITY RECTOR M.U. BILEY.

(A) MINISTRY OF CULTURE: VITOSHINSKIY SAID THAT US EXHIBITS AND CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS HAD BEEN VERY POPULAR IN UKRAINE AND HE PERSONALLY HAD SEEN SEVERAL. HE DISCUSSED HOW MORE COULD COME TO KIEV AND LOOKED FORWARD TO DEALING WITH THE US CONSULATE WHEN ESTABLISHED. HE MADE POINT OF SAYING THAT HE IS REGULARLY ON PHONE WITH HIS FRIEND POPOV TALKING OVER CULTURAL EXCHANGES, THAT THEY DEAL WITH ONE ANOTHER AS EQUALS, AND THAT ADDITIONAL COORDINATION CAN AND DOES TAKE PLACE DURING REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS OF CULTURAL MINISTERS OF SOVIET REPUBLICS. VITOSHINSKY SAID THAT ALL OFFERS RECEIVED BY HIS MINISTRY DIRECTLY ARE COORDINATED WITH MINCULT-USSR AT SUCH MEETINGS. PARTY SPOKE SPECIFICALLY OF BOOKS FOR LIBRARIES AND OF SPEAKERS IN ADDITION TO PERFORMING ARTS AND EXHIBITS. VITOSHINSKY SAID THEY WOULD WELCOME SUPPLIES OF BOOKS FOR THEIR VARIOUS LIBRARIES AND, WHILE SPEAKERS IN SUCH FIELDS AS LITERATURE WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME, THEIR VISITS SHOULD BEST BE WORKED OUT WITH THE UNION OF UKRAINIAN WRITERS. AFTER THE DISCUSSION, MINCULT-USSR ESCORT SMAGIN ADDED UNSOLICITED COMMENT THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER IF ALL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING BOOK PRESENTATIONS, BE HANDLED THROUGH MIN CULT IN MOSCOW, BUT EMBASSY ESCORT REMARKED THAT SEEMED LIKE UNNECESSARY EXTRA STEP IN LIGHT OF WHAT VITOSHINSKY HAD SAID.

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(B) KIEV UNIVERSITY: AFTER GENERAL DISCUSSION OF EXCHANGES, MARKS ASKED THE RECTOR ABOUT WHAT SOVIET SIDE EXPECTED TO GAIN FROM LECTURER EXCHANGE AND WHAT SPECIFIC FIELDS THEY DESIRED TO HAVE LECTURERS IN. RECTOR ANSWERED VERY OPENLY THAT USSR TRIED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EXCHANGE OF LECTURERS PROGRAM TO REQUEST TEACHERS IN FIELDS IN WHICH THEY FELT WEAK AND WHICH WERE IMPORTANT TO THEIR NATIONAL INTERESTS. MARKS MENTIONED THAT WE HAD HEARD THAT THEY HAD REQUESTED SOME LECTURERS OF MHE WHICH WERE NOT PASSED ON TO US, BUT THE RECTOR REALLY DID NOT ADDRESS THIS POINT, SAYING ONLY THAT THE MINISTRY HAD TO BALANCE

A NUMBER OF REQUESTS. HE SAID THEY WOULD PARTICULARLY WELCOME LECTURERS IN: CYBERNETICS, MATHEMATICS, ECONOMICS, AESTHETICS IN ENGINEERING AND DESIGN, PSYCHOLOGY OF WORK AND MANAGEMENT, AND METHODOLOGY OF AND TECHNICAL AIDS IN TEACHING. HE ALSO SAID THE UNIVERSITY WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN JOINT PREPARATION OF TEXTS IN CERTAIN BASIC SCIENTIFIC FIELDS, OR WOULD WELCOME RECEIVING TEXTS FROM AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES. THEY ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN SOLVING PROBLEM OF WHAT SHOULD BEST GO INTO CORE CURRICULUM TO PROVIDE THE BEST BASIS FOR CONTINUED LEARNING. ON SETTING UP DIRECT EXCHANGE, RECTOR SAID BEST WAY TO PROCEED WOULD BE TO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE, OR PERHAPS SEVERAL, FROM INTERESTED AMERICAN UNIVERSITY COME TO KGU FOR TWO-WEEK STAY TO LEARN ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S ORGANIZATION, STRENGTHS, AND WEAKNESSES, AFTER WHICH PERHAPS FOLLOW-UP VISIT COULD BE ARRANGED TO US, AND THEN AN AGREEMENT COULD BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN TWO UNIVERSITIES. RECTOR SUGGESTED A SIMULTANEOUS APPROACH TO HIM AND TO MHE TO GET THINGS STARTED, IF AN AMERICAN SCHOOL IS INTERESTED. (MARKS IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN TRYING TO GET UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH INTERESTED, IN LIGHT OF CITY'S TIES TO THE UKRAINE. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH A WIDE RANGE OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN MUSEUMS, SCHOOLS AND GOVT ORGANIZATIONS.) FOLLOWING UP ON RECTOR'S INTEREST IN RECEIVING BOOKS, MARKS ASKED IF UNIVERSITY WOULD WELCOME A SMALL COLLECTION DONATED BY THE EMBASSY AND RECTOR SAID CERTAINLY.

11. COMMENT: MARKS' WARM RECEPTION AND FRANK TALKS HAD SYMBOLIC AS WELL AS SUBSTANTIVE VALUE. SOVIETS, PARTICULARLY DEMICHEV, HAVE SIGNALLED READINESS TO DISCUSS CAUTIOUS EXPANSION, WITHIN THEIR OWN LIMITS, OF CULTURAL CONTACTS IN THE POST-CSCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ATMOSPHERE. VISIT WAS USEFUL IN OBTAINING HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO CURRENT US INITIATIVES AND EMBASSY WILL BE REVIEWING WITH DEPARTMENT FURTHER STEPS TO BE PRESENTED TO SOVIETS BEFORE IMPORTANT DECEMBER REVIEW TALKS.
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 12388, 75 LENINGRAD 1345, 75 MOSCOW 12454
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF LEONARD MARKS, CHAIRMAN, US ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INT'L EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006